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To: <MCSF@courts.mi.gov>
Date: Sat, May 3, 2003 2:30 PM
Subject: General Comments: Child Care

The current manual only states that "reasonable" costs be apportioned. Usually, the non-custodial parent is more than willing to shoulder the care but not the expense. Does Michigan feel that paid strangers are better custodians than a parent? If not, why not insert language that preference will be given to the child care provided by the non-custodial parent - that it is not "reasonable" to pay for care when a parent is willing to shoulder this burden!

Additionally, it appears that no consideration is stated regarding ability to pay this expense. The manual only states that such expense shall be apportioned.

Attorney Bo Schimers